

Legislative Digest

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H.R. 2200, CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2015, as amended

FLOOR SITUATION

On Tuesday, June 23, 2015, the House will consider <u>H.R. 2200</u>, the CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2015, as amended, under suspension of the rules. H.R. 2200 was introduced on May 1, 2015, by Rep. Martha McSally (R-AZ) and was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, which ordered the bill reported, as amended, by voice vote, on May 20, 2015.

SUMMARY

H.R. 2200 authorizes certain chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear intelligence analysis and information sharing activities of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The bill also authorizes DHS I&A to coordinate with relevant Department components, the Intelligence Community, and other Federal, State, local, and tribal authorities to enable such entities to provide recommendations on optimal information sharing mechanisms and on how they can provide information to the Department.

BACKGROUND

The mission of the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Intelligence and Analysis is "to equip the Homeland Security Enterprise with the intelligence and information it needs to keep the homeland safe, secure, and resilient." The mission is supported by the following strategic goals: promoting understanding of threats through intelligence analysis; collecting Information and intelligence pertinent to homeland security; sharing information necessary for action; and managing intelligence for the Homeland Security Enterprise.²

Terrorist groups have long strived to employ chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) materials in their attacks. Furthermore, events such as the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013 illustrated the need for better information sharing between federal and local officials. This legislation requires that the Office of Intelligence and Analysis enhance intelligence analysis and information

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¹ http://www.dhs.gov/office-intelligence-and-analysis

² Id.

sharing on CBRN threats and work to ensure that state and local officials get the actionable intelligence information necessary to stop an attack.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that implementing <u>H.R. 2200</u> would not significantly affect spending by DHS. Because enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information please contact <u>Jerry White</u> with the House Republican Policy Committee by email or at 5-0190.